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REPORT OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

San José, Costa Rica, 19-20 April 2001

01-5-373

CONTENTS

		Paragraph	*Page*
A.	ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK	1-3	1
	Place and date of meeting	1	1
	Attendance	2	1
	Chairperson and rapporteur	3	1
B.	AGENDA	4	1
C.	SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS	5-43	2
D.	AGREEMENTS ADOPTED	44	10
Annex -	LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	-	13

A. ATTENDANCE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Place and date of meeting

1. The Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean held their thirty-second meeting from 19 to 20 April 2001 in San José, Costa Rica.

Attendance

2. The meeting was attended by representatives of the following ECLAC member countries serving as Presiding Officers: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. The Dominican Republic and Panama attended the meeting in their capacity as States members of ECLAC. Representatives of the following programmes and bodies of the United Nations system also participated: United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and World Food Programme (WFP). The following specialized agencies of the United Nations were represented: International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (WHO-PAHO). Representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations also attended: Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (FLACSO), Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIDH), Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) and Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization for American States (IACW/OAS).

Chairperson and rapporteur

3. The meeting was presided over by Ms. Susana Villarán, Chairperson of the Presiding Officers and Minister for Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru. The duties of rapporteur were performed by Patricia Espinosa, Executive Chairperson of the National Women's Institute of Mexico.

B. AGENDA

4. The Presiding Officers adopted the following agenda:

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Review of activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers

3. Evaluation and follow-up of provisions and resolutions adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) and at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (New York, 5-9 June 2000)

4. Activities carried out by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session and by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality at its sixth session

5. Follow-up to major United Nations world conferences and summits and coordination of activities with those of other intergovernmental organizations

6. Report on the activities of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations

7. Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat

8. Other matters

C. SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

5. At the opening session of the meeting, statements were made by Gloria Valerín, Minister-Director of the Office on the Status of Women of Costa Rica; Elaine White, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica; Daniel Blanchard, Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); and Susana Villarán, Chairperson of the Presiding Officers and Minister for Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru (PROMUDEH).

6. The Minister on the Status of Women of Costa Rica welcomed the attending delegations and told the participants that her country was honoured to receive such distinguished visitors and to work with them for the advancement of women in the continent and, in so doing, for human development, democracy and peace. The present meeting was clearly of great importance and bore significance for the entire continent. Moreover, it coincided with the recent passage in Costa Rica of the Responsible Paternity Act and with her country's ratification of the optional protocol of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

7. A determined effort was being made to secure the enactment of a penal statute that would explicitly provide for the punishment of perpetrators of violence against women, and she hoped to announce its passage in the near future. She concluded her remarks by noting that, above and beyond any economic model, agreement or treaty, the great challenge confronting humanity was to overcome all forms of gender-based discrimination. She therefore called for continued efforts to attain a better quality of life within a framework of equality, equity and mutual respect for the differences between men and women.

8. The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica noted that her country was gratified to be hosting the meeting and referred to Costa Rica's long constitutional tradition and to the commitment it had made to education as a fundamental instrument of human and social development. In that spirit, the women of Costa Rica were guaranteed the right to elect and to be elected. Furthermore, in addition to signing and adopting the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Costa Rica had recently ratified the optional protocol to that Convention.

9. The challenges involved in attaining conditions of equality for women were formidable since, existing legislation notwithstanding, it was necessary to deal with customs, traditions and cultural patterns that encouraged discrimination. Costa Rica had placed special emphasis on the consolidation of a policy of State to promote women's rights, and one of the principal measures adopted under that policy was the assignment of ministerial rank to the governmental Office on the Status of Women.

10. The country was looking forward to a very important event, inasmuch as it was to host the General Assembly of the Organization of American States. The participants in that Assembly would be focusing on the question of human rights, and women's rights figured as a priority issue within that context. The effective exercise of those rights was not the sole responsibility of women but rather, first and foremost, that of Governments and of decision-makers at all levels. This point was an especially important one in view of the fact that the opportunities opened up by the globalized economy were not being equitably distributed among regions and countries or within society. It was the Deputy Minister's hope that the present forum would serve as a point of convergence and as the starting point for a series of successful initiatives for promoting women's well-being and, hence, the well-being of society and people in general.

11. The Secretary of the Commission expressed his gratitude to the Government of Costa Rica for its warm welcome, noting that the city of San José had become an international centre and stood as an example of institutional development for the advancement of women.

12. In performing its duties as the secretariat for the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC had assumed responsibility for organizing two meetings per year of the Presiding Officers at a time when women's organizations were becoming increasingly dynamic and faced mounting challenges in their efforts to mainstream the gender perspective in public policy-making and in the work of the various subregional, regional and international agencies. A number of other meetings had also been held on this issue and had served to identify the many challenges confronting the region in that respect.

13. One of those challenges was to recognize the fact that, although mechanisms for the advancement of women had become an established part of the region's institutional structure, the question now was how to link the struggle against gender-based discrimination with the more general effort to build more equitable societies in which to live. Better strategies for making that concern a part of all the various spheres of the State and of society were also needed, and the Presiding Officers should therefore encourage the establishment of links, networks and alliances.

From that standpoint, it was important for the Presiding Officers to provide opportunities for the participation of sectoral specialists of the highest stature so that the Ministers could work with colleagues involved in other fields and thus reinforce their commitment to gender equity.

14. In order to accomplish all of this, it would be necessary to increase the coordination and articulation of all the organizations working within and outside the United Nations system, to forge a more free-flowing dialogue and to change certain practices in order to avoid duplication of effort.

15. The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers and Minister for Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru, in referring to the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, which had been held in her country, drew attention to the glaring contradiction that lay in the fact that, at a time when her country was affirming the principles of equity and advocating the full exercise of human rights, it was held in the grip of authoritarianism and its political affairs and democratic State had been subverted. A great deal had changed in Peru since then; a stop had been put to clientage and the appropriation of guarantees and rights, and the country now had a transition government that was moving it towards democracy. Peru had returned to its place as a full-fledged member of the international community of human rights, had ratified the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and was enforcing the judgements of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.

16. Paradoxically, even as the country's democratic institutional structure had been disintegrating, legal norms had been enacted, institutions had been built and progress had been made towards achieving equality for women in various fields thanks to the unrelenting struggle of movements that had never swerved from their goal. Now, aspirations for a world in which justice prevailed served as a touchstone for the struggle for women's rights; if it was to succeed, government decision-makers would have to focus their efforts on fulfilling the commitments they had undertaken in international forums.

17. On the present occasion she had come to Costa Rica —a beautiful land that boasted an exemplary democratic tradition— to do her part to help institutionalize mechanisms to ensure the effective implementation of those agreements; accomplishing that purpose would require the political will of the Governments, the reinforcement of civil society's institutional structure and the participation of local government. That commitment should not be subject to the vagaries of governmental shifts or changes, and civil society therefore had an essential role to play. As part of that effort, ECLAC had provided a vital frame of reference in its dual role as a regional forum and link and as an invaluable resource in the systematization of informed analyses, academic contributions, the development of tools of policy analysis and the provision of up-to-date information.

18. The Chairperson concluded her statement by expressing the satisfaction that she derived from presiding over the present meeting and calling for the cooperation of all participants in

ensuring that the meeting of the Presiding Officers yielded the fruits that the region was striving for.

Adoption of the agenda (agenda item 1)

19. The representative of Mexico proposed that a report should be prepared for adoption at the conclusion of the present meeting which would reflect the essential points made during the debates and the conclusions reached. She also suggested that the provisional annotated agendas for the meetings of the Presiding Officers should be distributed at least two weeks prior to each meeting. The proposal submitted by Mexico was adopted.

Review of activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers (agenda item 2)

20. The participating member countries of ECLAC reported on the activities carried out at the national and regional levels since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers within the framework of the mandates contained in the Regional Programme of Action, the agreements adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, with special reference to the Lima Consensus, and the document approved at the special session of the General Assembly entitled, "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". Reports were presented by the representatives of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela. Antigua and Barbuda reported on the activities conducted by English-speaking countries of the Caribbean.

21. The representatives referred to advances and achievements in mainstreaming the gender perspective in public policy and in sensitizing and raising the awareness of public officials and legal professionals. Most of the countries were also working on the design of gender indicators and the compilation of statistics disaggregated by sex. Several delegations drew attention to the steps taken to strengthen or modify the institutional statutes of their governmental women's offices.

22. A number of representatives spoke about the progress made in enacting or amending laws to improve the status of women in terms of reproductive health; domestic violence and sexual exploitation, with emphasis on programmes focusing on law enforcement officers and efforts to augment the coverage of shelters for victims; education and sensitization aimed at preventing violence; the protection of vulnerable groups, including rural and poor women and children; and initiatives for helping to ensure that women held senior legislative and judicial posts.

23. Some representatives also discussed the steps taken to implement training projects, programmes for responding to complaints of discrimination in employment and initiatives aimed at ensuring equality of opportunity in employment and education.

24. All of the representatives made express reference to the efforts being made to ensure the ratification of the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

Discrimination against Women. In some cases the protocol had already been ratified or had been submitted to the relevant legislative bodies.

25. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit said that the report submitted to the thirty-second meeting would deal with issues calling for consideration and analysis; she went on to discuss activities carried out since the thirty-first meeting and in particular referred to the ECLAC/GTZ project on gender mainstreaming in ECLAC and sectoral ministries, to projects aimed at facilitating the use of gender indicators in public policy-making and at capacity-building for governance in national women's offices in Latin America and the Caribbean and to a project funded by the Government of the Netherlands which dealt with the impact of pension system reform on the gender gap in the region. She reviewed the pertinent reference documents and asked that the Governments convey their suggestions to ECLAC regarding possible participants in an upcoming meeting of experts on racism and gender.

26. From a long-term perspective, there were, in her opinion, three factors that influenced the possibilities for success of the mechanisms used to pursue the goals that had been established: context, institutional framework and leadership. Processes affecting the countries' performance in that regard should be subjected to a critical analysis covering the preceding decade, and the results should be documented.

27. A Social Affairs Officer with the Women and Development Unit discussed the ECLAC/GTZ project on gender mainstreaming in ECLAC and sectoral ministries. She indicated that baseline studies had been completed in the three countries where the project had been implemented. Those studies had provided information that had permitted the development of a valuable technical tool for reaching consensus on a priority agenda. The project had led to the creation of such instruments as the agreements signed with sectoral ministries in member countries. Consideration was being given to a second phase, and a consensus had been reached regarding the need to address the question of decentralization and local policies with a view to devising specific strategies and perhaps replicating that experience in other countries of the region.

28. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit then gave a presentation on the Unit's Web site. The site, which was located on the ECLAC Web portal, contained papers and publications, listed the projects that were being conducted and provided a wealth of information and comparative tables on the countries of the region. It also included country profiles relating to disaggregated gender indicators, the signature and ratification of the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, information on national machinery for the advancement of women and gender equity, and numerous links to other sources of information on the countries.

29. The Social Affairs Officer responsible for women's affairs at the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean spoke briefly about the activities being carried out and referred to problems of special concern to the English-speaking Caribbean countries, such as poverty, the public sector's commitment to objectives relating to the advancement of women, and gender mainstreaming. In connection with the question of capacity-building in the public sector, she

referred to violence against women, increased social services and the topic of gender and macroeconomic policy.

30. Statements were then made by the representatives of Costa Rica, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia and UNIFEM. Several representatives commended the Unit for the work it had done in order to post such a large amount of information on its Web site. The representative of Chile drew attention to the institutional issues to which the Chief of the ECLAC Women and Development Unit had referred. Her views were endorsed by the representative of Bolivia.

Evaluation and follow-up of provisions and resolutions adopted at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Lima, Peru, 8-10 February 2000) and at the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (New York, 5-9 June 2000) (agenda item 3)

31. The representative of Costa Rica reported on the analyses and proposals that had been submitted to promote and ensure the ratification of the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and reviewed the situation in her country in that connection. She informed the participants that, pursuant to agreement No. 7 as adopted at the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers, Costa Rica had ratified the protocol on 8 March. The other countries that had ratified the protocol by the time of the thirty-second meeting were Bolivia, Panama, Paraguay and Peru. Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Uruguay and Venezuela had signed it and had initiated the procedures necessary for its ratification under their national laws.

32. The representative of Mexico reported on the recommendations made by the General Assembly at its last session to the regional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and to the Commission on the Status of Women regarding follow-up to its special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century". She referred to General Assembly resolution 55/71 and particularly to paragraph 9, which echoed resolution III(VIII) as adopted by the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean at its eighth session in urging the regional commissions to set up a database covering all the programmes and projects being executed in their respective regions by bodies and organizations belonging to the United Nations system, paragraph 10 on the role of the Commission on the Status of Women, and paragraph 12, which recognized the importance attached to the regional and subregional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action.

Activities carried out by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-fifth session and by the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality at its sixth session (agenda item 4)

33. The representative of Cuba reported on the activities of the Commission on the Status of Women and the recommendations made at its most recent session, at which two substantive topics had been addressed: women, the girl child and HIV/AIDS; and gender relations and discrimination. Regrettably, a consensus had not been reached on those issues, particularly the

first, and the adoption of the conclusions formulated concerning HIV/AIDS had been deferred. It was also unfortunate that an excessive number of topics had been addressed, and she proposed that some of the topics included in the multi-annual programme of the Commission on the Status of Women might be examined at future meetings of the Presiding Officers. She also expressed concern about the possibility that the communications procedures used by the Commission on the Status of Women might be subordinated to the procedure set forth in resolution 1503 of the Commission on Human Rights.

34. With respect to the above subject, statements were made by the representatives of Chile, Costa Rica and Bolivia regarding the need to evaluate the implications of government coalitions formed within the framework of the United Nations and their effectiveness in defending women's rights. The representative of Argentina endorsed the views expressed by the representative of Cuba.

35. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit reported on the activities conducted since the last meeting of the Inter-Agency Committee on Women and Gender Equality held in New York from 27 February to 2 March 2001. She reported that ECLAC had received a mandate to coordinate the Task Force on Tools and Indicators for Gender Impact Analysis, Monitoring and Evaluation on behalf, in this case, of the five regional commissions together with the increasingly important role being played by the bodies of the United Nations system in promoting gender equity.

Follow-up to major United Nations world conferences and summits and coordination of activities with those of other intergovernmental organizations (agenda item 5)

36. Brief reports were given on the results of or preparations for the following meetings: Symposium on International Migration in the Americas (San José, Costa Rica, 4-6 September 2000); Latin American and Caribbean Regional Consultation on Financing for Development (Bogotá, Colombia, 9-10 November 2000); Meeting of Experts on Gender Mainstreaming in Macroeconomic Policy (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, 16-17 October 2000); first regular session of the 2000-2002 Executive Committee of the Inter-American Commission of Women of the Organization of American States (Washington, D.C., 15-16 February 2001); Latin American and Caribbean Preparatory Conference for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (Santiago, Chile, 23-27 October 2000); annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank, with special reference to the Forum on Social Equity (Santiago, Chile, 17 and 19-21 March 2001); preparations for the third Summit of the Americas, to be held in Quebec, Canada, from 20 to 22 April 2001; Regional Conference of the Americas in preparation for the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Forms of Intolerance (Santiago, Chile, 4-7 December 2000); nineteenth session of the Subcommittee on Women, Health, and Development of the Executive Committee of the Pan American Health Organization (Washington, D.C., 12-14 March 2001); preparations for an inter-ministerial conference on children, which is to be held at a later date; preparations for the first meeting of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, to be held in Santiago, Chile, from 9 to 11 May 2001; the special

session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children, to be held in September 2001; and the Symposium 2001: Gender violence, health and rights in the Americas, to be held in Cancun, Mexico, from 4 to 7 June 2001.

37. A number of representatives discussed the advisability of rationalizing the activities and areas of work of the various international and intergovernmental agencies concerned with women's issues in order to increase the efficiency of their efforts and thus meet the countries' needs more fully. Emphasis was placed on the need to analyse possible modalities of inter-agency cooperation and devise strategies to make use of each organization's comparative advantages.

Report on the activities of specialized agencies and other bodies of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations (agenda item 6)

38. The representatives of ICM/OAS, UNFPA, PAHO, WFP, UNIFEM, IIHR, IICA, ILO and UNAIDS gave brief presentations on the activities carried out since the thirty-first meeting of the Presiding Officers in accordance with their respective terms of reference and spheres of activity. The representative of Costa Rica read a report sent by INSTRAW.

39. The representatives referred to a number of subjects, including violence against women, health problems affecting women, including AIDS, the need to strengthen national machinery for the advancement of women, the integration of men's issues into the consideration of reproductive health issues and the topic of violence, and the gap existing between the content of international legislation and people's lives within a national context. The participating agencies and organizations reaffirmed their resolve to continue collaborating with ECLAC, especially in connection with the production of gender indicators.

Planned activities of the Presiding Officers and of the ECLAC secretariat (agenda item 7)

40. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit presented a proposal concerning the working methodology to be used for the forthcoming meeting of the Presiding Officers. That meeting was to be held at the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean in Port of Spain and was to focus on gender mainstreaming in public policy. This proposal was welcomed by the representatives, who offered input with a view to its further refinement. It was agreed that a task force would be formed by Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Cuba and Mexico to collaborate with the ECLAC secretariat in preparing and organizing the panel discussions on various topics to be held during that meeting and in coordinating with the participating sectoral ministries and with the experts that would take part in those panels.

Other matters (agenda item 8)

41. During the closing session of the meeting, the Minister on the Status of Women of Costa Rica said that all the representatives would always be welcome in her country and voiced her gratitude to ECLAC for the confidence shown in Costa Rica in the course of their joint organization of the meeting.

42. The Chief of the Women and Development Unit of ECLAC thanked the entire team of the National Women's Institute (INAMU) of Costa Rica and all the people who had worked behind the scenes to make the meeting a success. She expressed her appreciation for the warm hospitality shown by the host country and said that the meeting bore witness to the fact that women were active in a wide variety of spheres. In closing, she expressed her gratitude to the participants for the spirit of cooperation and solidarity they had demonstrated during their deliberations.

43. The Chairperson of the Presiding Officers and Minister for Women's Affairs and Human Development of Peru thanked the participants and made special mention of the extremely high quality of their contributions. She also expressed her appreciation to all those who had helped bring the meeting to a successful conclusion.

D. AGREEMENTS ADOPTED

44. The member countries with representatives serving as Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean adopted the following agreements:

1. To adopt, when possible, the reports of the meetings of Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean during the course of the corresponding meetings.

2. To request that, beginning with the next meeting of the Presiding Officers, the secretariat distribute the annotated agendas two weeks before the meetings are held.

3. In view of the need to harmonize regional follow-up to the Regional Programme of Action for the Women of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995-2001 with the 10-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, to recommend that consideration be given to the possibility of postponing the ninth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean until 2004 so that it can be linked up with the global process.

4. To request that the secretariat incorporate data on the legal status and budgets of national machinery for the advancement of women on the Web site of the Women and Development Unit and include a methodological warning regarding the coverage of the budget figures given.

5. To consider subjects such as men's issues, trafficking in women and the sexual exploitation of children as constituting key aspects of the countries' efforts to mainstream the gender perspective at the national level, with the assistance of technical cooperation activities; to promote policies to support the rights of

migrant women in order to combat discrimination, mistreatment and xenophobia; and to promote child care in order to ensure, *inter alia*, non-discriminatory access for women to the labour market.

6. To include the consideration of national budgets from a gender perspective as a fundamental element of gender mainstreaming.

7. In accordance with agreement No. 7 as approved at the thirty-first meeting,[1] to call upon the legislative bodies of the countries that have not yet done so to expedite completion of the procedures leading to the signature, approval or ratification of the optional protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; and to urge the heads of State attending the General Assembly of the Organization of American States scheduled in June 2001 to report upon progress towards the ratification of that protocol.

8. To recommend that the review of the methods of work used by the Commission on the Status of Women in following up on the agreements contained in the Platform for Action and the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" should take due account of the work of the regional commissions, in accordance with paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution A/RES/S-23/3 on further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

9. To undertake, at the thirty-third meeting of the Presiding Officers, an examination of substantive issues to be considered by the Commission on the Status of Women and to include the subject of poverty eradication on the agenda for that meeting of the Presiding Officers.

10. To propose to the Governments that they evaluate the effectiveness of governmental coordination groups within the framework of the United Nations in defending women's rights.

11. To send up-to-date information in an electronic format to ECLAC concerning gender statistics, equal opportunity plans and laws against violence, together with materials, programmes and projects concerning employment and participation in the labour force with a view to facilitating an exchange of experiences among countries.

12. To exchange information concerning public policy, laws, projects and programmes with a view to facilitating horizontal cooperation.

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[1] "To urge all participating countries and all States members of the Commission to reaffirm their commitment to the application of the above-mentioned Convention by signing and ratifying the optional protocol hereto, the ideal date suggested for this purpose being 8 March" (LC/L.1468(MDM.31/4)).

13. To recommend that, where appropriate, agreements adopted at meetings of the Presiding Officers and at the eighth session of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean be conveyed to the relevant Ministries of Foreign Affairs and be considered in mainstream government debates and in intergovernmental negotiating forums (summits, conferences and other meetings).

14. To recommend that the appropriate arrangements be made with each country's national statistical office so that the representatives of these offices will propose to the Statistical Conference of the Americas the formation of a specialized task force on gender statistics dealing with not only social but all areas of activity and will promote the visibility at that Conference of the efforts being made to develop gender indicators.

15. To send a proposal to the ECLAC secretariat within two weeks' time that lists the names of Ministers who could participate in the next open-ended meeting of the Presiding Officers, which will address the subject of gender mainstreaming in public policy, and a proposal that sets forth the names of experts who could participate in panels on specific subjects.

Annex

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

A. Países miembros de la Mesa Directiva
Member countries serving as Presiding Officers

ANTIGUA Y BARBUDA
ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Representante/Representative:

- Sheila Roseau, Executive Director, Directorate of Gender Affairs, Ministry of Health and Social Improvement

ARGENTINA

Representante/Representative:

- Lila Subirán de Viana, Embajadora, Representante Especial para Temas de la Mujer en el Ámbito Internacional, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Carmen Storani, Presidenta del Consejo Nacional de la Mujer
- Marta Turín de Llanos, Secretaria Ejecutiva, Consejo Provincial de la Mujer, Gobierno de la Pampa

BOLIVIA

Representante/Representative:

- Jarmila Morávek de Cerruto, Viceministra de Asuntos de Género, Generacionales y Familia, Viceministerio de Asuntos de Género, Generacionales y Familia

BRASIL
BRAZIL

Representante/Representative:

- Solange Bentes Jurema, Presidenta, Conselho Nacional dos Direitos da Mulher

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Suelí Galhardo, Secretária-Executiva, Secretaria de Estados dos Direitos Humanos, Secretaria Executiva do Conselho Nacional dos Direitos da Mulher

CHILE

Representante/Representative:

- Adriana Delpiano, Ministra Directora, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer, SERNAM

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Anita de Aguirre, Jefa, Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales, Servicio Nacional de la Mujer

COSTA RICA

Representante/Representative:

- Gloria Valerín, Ministra de la Condición de la Mujer y Presidenta del Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Marlene Valerín, Asesora de la Señora Ministra, Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres
- Gina Valitutti, Encargada de Relaciones Internacionales, Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres
- Silvia Lara, Directora Técnica, Instituto Nacional de las Mujeres

CUBA

Representante/Representative:

- Magalys Arocha, Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores, Federación de Mujeres Cubanas

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Ana Milagros Martínez, Funcionaria, Federación de Mujeres Cubanas

ECUADOR

Representante/Representative:

- Lola Villaquirán de Espinoza, Directora Ejecutiva, Consejo Nacional de las Mujeres

MÉXICO

Representante/Representative:

- Patricia Espinosa, Presidenta Ejecutiva, Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Angelina de Valle, Directora Asuntos de la Mujer, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
- Elía del Carmen Sosa, Directora de Área para Asuntos de la Mujer, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores

PANAMÁ

Representante/Representative:

- Elia L. de Tulipano, Directora, Dirección Nacional de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Cledia Mezúa, Vice-Presidenta, Consejo Nacional de la Mujer
- Sonia Itzel Castro de Suárez, Funcionaria, Consejo Nacional de la Mujer

PARAGUAY

Representante/Representative:

- Ana Medina Zorrilla, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales, Secretaría de la Mujer de la Presidencia de la República

PERÚ

Representante/Representative:

- Susana Villarán de la Puente, Ministra de Promoción de la Mujer y del Desarrollo Humano

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Silvia Loli, Gerenta de Promoción de la Mujer, Ministerio de Promoción de la Mujer y del Desarrollo Humano

REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Representante/Representative:

- Yadira Henríquez de Sánchez Baret, Secretaria de Estado, Secretaría de Estado de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- Nury Duarte, Vice-Ministra, Secretaría de Estado de la Mujer
- Nora Nivar, Vice-Ministra, Secretaría de Estado de la Mujer

URUGUAY

Representante/Representative:

- Raquel Trobo Viera, Directora, Instituto Nacional de la Familia y de la Mujer, Ministerio de Educación y Cultura

VENEZUELA

Representante/Representative:

- Reina Margarita Arratia Díaz, Directora de Relaciones Internacionales, Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

Miembros de la delegación/Delegation members:

- María Alejandra Ruíz, Directora Técnica, Instituto Nacional de la Mujer

B. Organismos del sistema de las Naciones Unidas
United Nations bodies

Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- María Teresa Torres, Oficial de Programa

Fondo de Población de las Naciones Unidas (FNUAP)/United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

- Tomás Jimenez Araya, Representante Nicaragua, Costa Rica y Panamá
- Jaime Nadal, Oficial de Programas
- Belkys Mones, Asesora Regional en Género, Población y Desarrollo

Fondo de las Naciones Unidas para la Infancia (UNICEF)/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

- Jorge Rivera, Representante en Costa Rica

Fondo de Desarrollo de las Naciones Unidas para la Mujer (UNIFEM)/United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)

- Guadalupe Espinosa, Directora Regional para México, Centroamérica, República Dominicana y Cuba

Programa Mundial de Alimentos (PMA)/World Food Programme (WFP)

- Rosa Inés Antolin, Directora Regional Adjunta para la División de América Latina y el Caribe

Programa Conjunto de las Naciones Unidas sobre el VIH/SIDA/Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

- José Enrique Zelaya, Asesor del Programa ONUSIDA para Centroamérica

C. Organismos especializados
Specialized agencies

Organización Internacional del Trabajo (OIT)/ International Labour Organization (ILO)

- Janina Fernández, Experta Proyecto Mujeres Maquila en Centroamérica

Organización Mundial de la Salud-Organización Panamericana de la Salud (OMS-OPS)/World Health Organization-Pan American Health Organization (WHO-PAHO)

- Alma Cathy Cuella, Subregional Coordinator of the Program on Women, Health and Development

D. Organizaciones intergubernamentales
Intergovernmental organizations

Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID)/ Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)

- Miguel Rosales, Especialista Sectorial

Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO)/Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences

- Mariam Pérez, Académica - Investigadora

Instituto Interamericano de Derechos Humanos (IIDH)/Inter-American Institute of Human Rights

- Gilda Pacheco, Directora, Area Sociedad Civil
- Line Barreiro, Oficial, Programa de Derechos Humanos de la Mujer
- Isabel Torres, Oficial, Sociedad Civil

Instituto Interamericano de Cooperación para la Agricultura (IICA)/Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture

- Sary Montero, Consultora Desarrollo Rural Sostenible, Area Género

Organización de los Estados Americanos (OEA)/Organization of American States (OAS)

- Mercedes Kremenetzky, Especialista Principal de la Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres
- Victor Brodersohn, Director de la Oficina de la Secretaría General de la OEA en Costa Rica

E. Secretaría
Secretariat

Comisión Económica para América Latina y el Caribe (CEPAL)/Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

Daniel Blanchard, Secretario de la Comisión
Sonia Montaño, Jefa, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo
Nieves Rico, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo
Diane Alméras, Oficial de Asuntos Sociales, Unidad Mujer y Desarrollo

Sede Subregional de la CEPAL para el Caribe/ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean

Roberta Clarke, Social Affairs Officer

Sede Subregional de la CEPAL en México/ECLAC subregional headquarters in Mexico

Pilar Vidal, Programa Mujer y Desarrollo